

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HAMBUR 01696 241420Z

51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 240930Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3253

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAMBURG 1696

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD ENGR EFIN UR GW US

SUBJ: REPORTED SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS FOR PURCHASE OF SPECIAL
TRAWLERS FROM FRG

REF: A. MOSCOW 18769; B. MOSCOW 18552; C. BONN 19433

1. WE BELIEVE, BUT HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM, THAT THE GERMAN FIRM WHICH WOULD BUILD THE TRAWLERS DISCUSSED IN REFTELS IS HOWALDSWERKE-DEUTSCHE WERFT A.G. (HDW) OF HAMBURG AND KIEL. HDW IS THE ONLY SHIPBUILDER IN KIEL LARGE ENOUGH TO HANDLE A CONTRACT OF THIS MAGNITUDE, AND THE FIRM HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF LUCRATIVE SOVIET CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTING TRAWLERS OVER THE LAST 15 YEARS.

2. OUR CONTACT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF HDW IS UNAVAILABLE UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. GIVEN THE SENSITIVITY OF THE SUBJECT, WE HAVE AVOIDED DISCUSSING IT WITH LOWER-RANKING CONTACTS WHO MIGHT NOT KNOW DETAILS ANYWAY.

3. WE HAVE BROACHED THE SUBJECT WITH A GOOD CONTACT, DR. W. H. LAMPE, HEAD OF THE LEGAL DIVISION OF THE MARITIME OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY. HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE SUBJECT BUT HAS PROMISED TO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRY OF HIS COLLEAGUES AND ADVISE OF HIS FINDINGS. SOURCE OF OUR INFORMATION WAS NOT MENTIONED TO HIM.

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4. WILL CONTINUE TO REPORT AS FACTS ARE DEVELOPED.BROGAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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